

Idrees in Ramadhaan

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Publisher's Note

In this book for children, the manner of spending the month of Ramadhan in a right way is shown in an interesting manner.

We should teach our children the merits of this month of piety, and show them how to spend the fasting time in obedience to Allāh in word and deed.

Ramadhan is not a month of laziness, eating, drinking and wasting valuable time in watching television until late at night. But it is a month of reciting the Qur'ān, offering prayers, feeding the poor and doing good deeds to please Allāh. The children should learn about it from their early childhood.

May Allāh help us all in the right upbringing of our children.

Abdul Malik Mujahid
General Manager, Darussalam

Idrees In Ramadhaan

Idrees is a student in the fifth grade. He is well behaved, smart and very successful in his studies. He knows the whole Qur'ān by heart. He also knows a lot of the Prophet's *Hadeeths* and a few verses of Arabic poetry. He does not engage in things that do not concern him and he does not keep bad company. All his neighbors, teachers and classmates like him and respect him because he respects everybody and never hurts or harms anyone.

Ramadhaan holds a high position in Idrees' heart. So whenever this blessed month approaches, he prepares himself for it so that he will benefit as much as he can from it and therefore win Allāh's Pleasure. He does not waste his time by lazily sitting in front of the television, watching films and football matches, as many people do. Instead, he tries to make the best of his time by increasing

his good deeds in order to get closer to Allāh.

Every year at the end of the month of Sha'baan he eagerly waits to sight the new moon of Ramadhaan. When he sees it, he recites the Prophet's supplication:

«اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُمَّ أَهْلُهُ عَلَيْنَا بِالْأَمْنِ وَالْإِيمَانِ،
وَالسَّلَامَةِ وَالْإِسْلَامِ، وَالتَّوْفِيقِ لِمَا تُحِبُّ
وَتَرْضَى، رَبَّنَا وَرَبُّكَ اللَّهُ»

“Allaahu Akbar. Allaahumma ahillahu ‘alayna bil-amni wal-eeman, was-salaamati wal-Islam, wat-tawfeeqi limaa tuhibbu wa tardhaa. Rabbunaa wa Rabbuk-Allaah.”

[Allāh is the Greatest. O Allāh! Bring it (the new moon) to us in security and in faith, in peace and in Islam, and in harmony with what our Lord loves and what pleases Him. Our Lord and your Lord is Allāh.]

He then stays in the mosque after ‘Ishaa’

prayer and does not leave it until he performs *At-Taraaweeh* prayers with the *Imaam*, acting upon the saying of the Prophet ﷺ:

«مَنْ قَامَ رَمَضَانَ إِيمَانًا وَاحْتِسَابًا غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ»

“Whoever stands for prayer during (the nights of) Ramadhaan with faith and anticipating Allāh’s reward, will have all his past sins forgiven.”

And his saying:

«مَنْ قَامَ مَعَ الْإِمَامِ حَتَّى يَنْصَرِفَ كُتِبَ لَهُ قِيَامُ لَيْلَةٍ»

“Whoever prays behind the *Imaam* until he completes (the prayer), will have the reward of standing in prayer for the whole night.”

While fasting, people are of two types. The first type are those who spend their

time in obedience to Allāh in word and deed. They recite the Noble Qur’ān, offer prayers with the congregation in the mosque, feed the poor and the needy and do all the righteous good deeds to the best of their ability. They do not waste their time, engage in hearsay, backbite others, lie to people, deceive them or harm them. If someone does harm to them or tries to provoke them, they simply say, “*Innee Saa’im*,” meaning “I am fasting,” as the Prophet ﷺ has taught us:

«الصَّيَامُ جُنَّةٌ، فَإِذَا كَانَ يَوْمُ صَوْمٍ أَحَدِكُمْ فَلَا يَرْفُثْ وَلَا يَصْخَبْ وَلَا يَجْهَلْ، فَإِنْ سَابَّهُ أَحَدٌ أَوْ قَاتَلَهُ، فَلْيَقُلْ: إِنِّي امْرُؤٌ صَائِمٌ»

“Fasting is a shield. If anyone of you observes fasting, he should avoid saying bad words, shouting and behaving foolishly. If someone curses him or fights him, he should say, ‘I am a fasting person!’”

The Prophet ﷺ also said:

«لَيْسَ الصَّيَّامُ مِنَ الْأَكْلِ وَالشُّرْبِ، وَإِنَّمَا
الصَّيَّامُ مِنَ اللَّغْوِ وَالرَّفَثِ»

“Fasting is not (merely) abstaining from food and drink, but also avoiding idle talk and obscenity.”

There are also those who think only about food and drink. As soon as the sun sets, they sit at the table and set about devouring the food greedily. When they have had their fill, they lazily sit in front of the television, switching between channels until late at night. Then they have their pre-dawn meal or *Suhoor*, and go to bed without even offering the dawn prayer (*Fajr*). To these type of people, Ramadhan is not a month of purifying the soul, ridding oneself of bad habits and developing good character. Neither is it a month of worship, recitation of the Qur’ān and complete devotion to Allāh. Rather, for them, it is a month of

laziness, eating and drinking and wasting valuable time. Such people are in fact losers because they do not realize the importance of this month.

Idrees recites three parts of the Qur’ān everyday in Ramadhan. One day, on the tenth of Ramadhan, the mosque was full of people after ‘Asr prayer. It was like a beehive because of the recitation of the people. Some people were lying down on their sides and talking to one another. Idrees chose a quiet place in one of the corners of the mosque, away from the playing children who had accompanied their fathers, and he started reciting the Qur’ān in a very beautiful and melodious voice. His teacher, ‘Aatif, was sitting next to him. ‘Aatif was well aware of Idrees’ talents and abilities and he had always shown him love and affection.

When Idrees finished his recitation, his teacher asked him in a loud voice, “Should children be encouraged to fast,